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Sen. Van Woerkom presents White Pine Award to Janet Clark

LANSING – In a special presentation at Grant Elementary School Monday, Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom presented Janet Clark of Grant, Mich. with the White Pine Award for Environmental Excellence.

“Clark is a champion of the environment in her classroom and community,” said Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores. “She deserves to be recognized with the White Pine Award for her dedication and leadership. Clark is an excellent role model for all of her students and neighbors in Newaygo County.”

Clark started a recycling program in her fourth grade classroom at Grant Elementary School as an educational project. Her efforts to open and continue funding the Grant Recycling Center have been accomplished through successful fund-raising and personal donations. Clark serves on a committee to promote recycling in Newaygo County and has participated in the Michigan Department of Transportation’s Adopt-a-Highway program for 10 years.

Van Woerkom presented Clark with a Senate tribute and a white pine tree donated by John Mellema of Mellema Nursery in Fremont.

The White Pine Award was created in 1992 to recognize local individuals or groups who have made significant and lasting commitments to help protect our environment.

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Editor’s note: Pictures of Sen. Van Woerkom presenting the award to Janet Clark may be downloaded from the Senate Majority Photowire at www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/.